

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the allowable features of claim 9 have been incorporated into claims 1, 11, 17 and 20 and claim 9 has been cancelled. As a result, claims 10 and 18 have also been amended.

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the Amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; (c) does not add any additional claims; and (d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

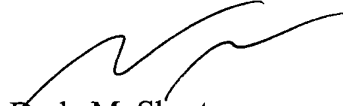
Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4-10 and 14-16 and the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 18 if claim 18 was amended to recite language similar to claim 9. By this Amendment, the allowable features of claim 9 have been incorporated into each of the independent claims.

The rejections of claims 1, 11 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Celette, FR 2581634, and claims 2, 3, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Celette in view of Gerkey et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,200,424, have been rendered moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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